

1 SB430
2 159674-1
3 By Senators Beason, Sanford, Allen, and Glover
4 RFD: Finance and Taxation Education
5 First Read: 04-MAR-14

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8 SYNOPSIS: This bill would require the public
9 institutions of higher education in the state,
10 under the direction of the Alabama Council of
11 College and University Presidents, to create a
12 library of digital textbooks for free download and
13 use in public K-12 schools.

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15 A BILL
16 TO BE ENTITLED
17 AN ACT

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19 Relating to public education; to require the public
20 institutions of higher education in the state, under the
21 direction of the Alabama Council of College and University
22 Presidents, to create a library of digital textbooks for free
23 download and use in public K-12 schools.

24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

25 Section 1. (a) Under the direction of the Alabama
26 Council of College and University Presidents, the public
27 institutions of higher education in the state shall coordinate

1 efforts to create a library of digital textbooks for use in
2 public K-12 schools in the state. The digital textbook library
3 shall be easily accessible to and continuously monitored by
4 the council, or an agent selected by the council, to ensure
5 that any errors are quickly corrected and that the material
6 covered in each digital textbook is updated as necessary.

7 (b) The digital textbooks shall cover all subject
8 matters taught in the public K-12 schools, shall be available
9 for free download to electronic devices through the state
10 supercomputer, and shall be in a format that may be printed,
11 on demand, without extraneous information or data.

12 (c) The State Textbook Committee shall review all
13 digital textbooks created under this act to ensure that the
14 content of each textbook is balanced and does not proselytize
15 a particular view. Digital textbooks covering the subjects of
16 literature and English shall emphasize traditional classics.

17 (d) A digital textbook created pursuant to this act
18 is state property and not subject to any publication or
19 duplication fee. The State Board of Education, or any local
20 board of education, may have digital textbooks printed and
21 published in book form for use by students.

22 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the
23 first day of the third month following its passage and
24 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.